

## Declare Independence from Your Car! Ride BART to Fourth of July Fireworks

Fighting traffic can dampen the July 4 spirit quicker than summer fog in San Francisco. Celebrate your independence from congested streets, parking hassles, bridge tolls and high gas prices – ride BART to the festivities. BART is the easy and stress-free way to see the fireworks.

In San Francisco, party at the Fourth of July Waterfront Festival at various sites along the Embarcadero waterfront, then watch the fireworks, starting at about 9 p.m. View the pyrotechnics from anywhere along the scenic

waterfront: Pier 39, the Cannery, Fisherman's Wharf, Aquatic Park and environs. To get there, take BART to Embarcadero Station, then hop Muni Metro's historic F line street car along the Embarcadero.

In Oakland, fireworks blaze above Jack London Square beginning at about 9:15. Take BART to Oakland City Center/12th Street and stroll down Broadway, or take AC Transit to Jack London Square. Visit [actransit.org](http://actransit.org) for bus schedules and information. Visit [bart.gov](http://bart.gov) to plan your BART trip.



## Spare the Air, Get a Free BART Ride!



Ride BART free for morning commutes on the first five non-holiday "Spare the Air" weekdays between June 1 and October 14, 2005! Anyone entering a BART station between 4 a.m. and 9 a.m. can ride free on these days.

Expanding on last year's highly successful Spare the Air promotion, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) are partnering with BART and 21

other transit operators to offer riders these free morning commutes when air pollution levels are high. The estimated \$3.9 million cost of the free ride program will be paid by the Air District and MTC using federal transportation dollars allocated to the Bay Area.

For more information, visit [bart.gov](http://bart.gov), [sparetheair.org](http://sparetheair.org) or [511.org](http://511.org). Encourage your friends and coworkers to Spare the Air and ride BART this summer!

## BART Board Passes FY06 Interim Budget

BART's Board of Directors last month passed the Fiscal Year 2006 Interim Operating Budget. The budget includes a variety of cost reductions and revenue enhancements.

The \$523.8 million budget cuts 115.5 positions, half of which are currently vacant. The cuts focus on administrative areas so customer impacts are minimized.

BART will use revenues from a \$0.10 ticket surcharge beginning January 1, 2006 to fund capital projects like keeping fare gates and BART cars in working order.

The senior, disabled and child discount will be reduced from 75% off a full fare ticket, which is the most generous discount in the Bay Area, to 62.5%.

There will be a charge for parking at 10 East Bay stations: \$1.00 per day at MacArthur, Lake Merritt, Rockridge, Orinda, Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Dublin/Pleasanton, North Berkeley and Ashby Stations, and \$5.00 per day at West Oakland.

Some peak period trains will be shortened to more closely match ridership levels.

Even with these measures, the budget is still carries a \$24 million deficit. BART has frozen executive salaries for the coming year. For more info, visit [www.bart.gov](http://www.bart.gov).

## Take BART to SF Pride Celebration



San Francisco Pride 2005 hits the streets Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26. Join the party all weekend long at San Francisco's Civic Center.

Saturday from noon until 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. The parade begins Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at Market and Beale streets.

One of the world's largest Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender events, SF Pride attracts in excess of one million people. Beat the traffic, take BART to the celebration and parade. For more info, visit [sfpride.org](http://sfpride.org).

SF Pride is two days of music, food and fun... all for FREE! The celebration area will open

# Question of the Month



**Do I need to show any special documentation to use a "Red" disabled discount BART ticket?**

Disabled passengers should obtain the Regional Transit Committee disabled ID card in order to use "Red" disabled discount BART tickets. This is the most widely recognized transit discount ID card in the region. Contact any participating transit agency to find out where and when they provide and process applications for the ID card. BART accepts applications from 9-11:30 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Lake Merritt BART station's Customer Services Center.

The application form includes a section requiring certification of disability from your doctor.

## Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage

BART is celebrating Asian Pacific American heritage in the month of June with special offers at great Bay Area destinations.

Drink pearl milk tea. Delight in culinary delicacies or Hawaiian fusion cuisine. Check out the latest toys from Japan. Catch an opera, see a ball game, or a priceless work of art. BART makes it easy and affordable to get there.

Visit [www.bart.gov/apa](http://www.bart.gov/apa) to print a discount postcard and check out all the wonderful Asian Pacific American Heritage offers!



## GOOD TIMES

### Steve Martin's "Picasso at the Lapin Agile"

Center Repertory Company  
Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts  
1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek  
[www.dlrca.org](http://www.dlrca.org) or 925/943-SHOW  
**BART: Walnut Creek**

**Through June 19:** Set in a seedy bar in 1904, this farce of ideas presents Picasso and Einstein on the verge of greatness. The geniuses engage in a battle of wits over painting, probability, lust and the future of the world.

### Medea: The Musical

Theatre Rhinoceros  
2926 16th St., San Francisco  
[www.therhino.org](http://www.therhino.org) or 415/861-5079  
**BART: 16th Street**

**Through June 19:** The rollicking backstage musical of love, lust, adventure and ambition returns to San Francisco.

### What's Wrong with Angry?

New Conservatory Theatre Center  
25 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco  
[www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org) or 415/861-8972  
**BART: Civic Center**

**June 11-July 10:** British playwright and screenwriter Patrick Wilde explores head-on the social taboos surrounding teen homosexuality. A happily gay 16-year-old in small-town Britain finds himself forced to choose between the love of his life and being true to himself.

### Bike Tours of Oakland

Sponsored by the Oakland Museum of California  
10th and Oak streets  
[www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org) or 510/238-3514  
**BART: Lake Merritt**

**Sunday, June 19, 10 a.m.:** Meet at the museum's 10th Street entrance to explore Oakland and learn about its incredible history, its visionaries and its scoundrels (who were often the same people!). The 5-mile tour lasts two hours, with no hills. Reservations required – call the number above or e-mail to [jcollignon@museumca.org](mailto:jcollignon@museumca.org). Free.

### Shed a Little Light: The Music of James Taylor

American Conservatory Theater's Young Conservatory  
Zeum Theater  
Fourth and Howard streets, San Francisco  
Tickets: [www.act-sf.org](http://www.act-sf.org) or 415/749-2228  
**BART: Powell or Montgomery**

**June 17-July 3:** In this theatrical tribute to a modern musical legend, the young characters find and lose love, struggle with loneliness and solitude, and learn to take charge of their fate.

### Playing Favorites: Community Choices from the History Collection

Oakland Museum of California  
10th and Oak streets  
[www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org) or 510/238-2200  
**BART: Lake Merritt**

**Through July 31:** Rarely seen artifacts from the museum's history collections, including a classic Doggie Diner sign and a Wurlitzer jukebox.

## Watch out for mosquitoes on your way to BART

Walking to BART in the morning or home in the evening is a great way to help the environment and get some good exercise. Now that warmer weather and longer days have returned, so have pesky mosquitoes.

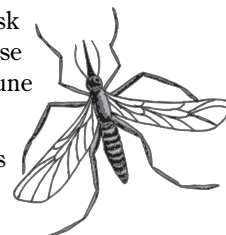
This year, it's more important than ever to protect yourself from bug bites, because the West Nile virus is expected to reach the Bay Area this summer.

The good news is few species of mosquitoes carry the virus. If an infected mosquito bites you, you've got a 1 in 100 chance of getting the virus. And of those infected, only about 1 in 150 may feel ill enough to see a doctor.

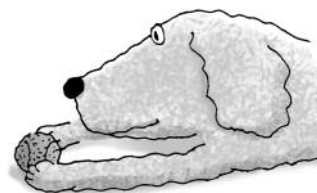
People at highest risk are the elderly and those with weakened immune systems.

There are a few things you can do to help Fight the Bite:

- Watch out for mosquitoes as you walk to BART, especially during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants.
- Use insect repellent and re-apply if it stops working.



BARToon grimescartoons.com



"I'D LOVE TO EXERCISE MORE, BUT WITH A SCHEDULE LIKE MINE, WHO'S GOT THE TIME?"

JOHN GRIMES